1:Nimuendajú E-5 (1941-1942) 1952
SQ20 Tucuna SQ20

Madeira: a few are found in the languages of the Capakúra family, and they are a little more evident in the isolated language of the Jabutí (and Arikapú) of the upper Rio Branco, tributary to the Guaporé, discovered and reported on by H. Snethlage in 1933. 197 114

The grammatical characteristics of Tukuna are the following: one article, na (which is placed before the substantive), different from the personal pronoun of the third person, na; two plural suffixes of substantives, *-ta* and *-gi*; and a suffix, *-ẽ*, of the plural of verbs. There are distinct forms for the singular and plural of both transitive and intransitive verbs, viz.: 193

to go (one person) uⁿ
to go (several persons) iⁿ

to kill (one person) ma/
to kill (several persons) da'i

The Tukuna forms for the first person singular (masc.) and the first person plural (masc.) of certain pronouns correspond to the Tupí, as well as the Yurí, forms. These are:

First person singular (masc.) ẽa
First person plural (masc.) ta

(Omágua: tana = us, exclusively.) For the Tukuna pronoun of the second person singular, ku, I have found no corresponding form in any language (unless it be the Uro, eun ?). The personal pronouns (demonstrative) of the third person are the most distinctive characteristic of the Tukuna language. In addition to the distinction of gender, which is expressed only in them, many of these pronouns convey also a local and temporal meaning. I do not know of a similar process in any other language.

This distinction of gender in the third person of the pronouns (as well as in the substantives) is certainly one of the best criteria of the Arawakan languages, but it is lacking precisely in the Arawakan language immediately next to Tukuna, viz., Kayuišána, while it appears in the non-Arawakan languages of the region—Witóto, Miránya, and Tukáno. Nor do there appear to be other grammatical affinities between Tukuna and the Arawakan languages. Since the Tukuna lexical elements do not represent an appreciable percentage of the Arawakan languages, I do not believe that there is sufficient ground for including Tukuna in the Arawak family, as Brinton, Rivet, and Loukotka have done. It is preferable to consider it, for the time being, as Chamberlain and Tessmann do, an isolated language. 193 197